

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: by Chairman Dennis Himmelberger, on January 19, 2009 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 455 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Dennis Himmelberger, Chairman (R)
Rep. Sue Dickenson, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Jesse O'Hara, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Russell Bean (R)
Rep. Joel Boniek (R)
Rep. Frosty Boss Ribs (D)
Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Rep. Pat Ingraham (R)
Rep. Gary MacLaren (R)
Rep. Kendall Van Dyk (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: Rep. Tony Belcourt (D)
Rep. Dee Brown (R)
Rep. Betsy Hands (D)
Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick (R)
Rep. Sue Malek (D)
Rep. Mike Phillips (D)
Rep. Ted Washburn (R)
Rep. Franke Wilmer (D)

Staff Present: Sheri Heffelfinger, Legislative Branch
Marshall McEwen, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 83, HB 87, HB 99, HB 109
Executive Action: None

00:02:10 Rep. Belcourt and Rep. Washburn entered the room.

HEARING ON HB 83

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:03:15 Rep. Sue Dickenson (D), HD 25, opened the hearing on
HB 83, Professional retirement option for K-12
workforce.

EXHIBIT(sth12a01)

00:04:31 Rep. Hendrick entered the room.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:08:58 Tom Bilodeau, Research Director, MEA-MFT

EXHIBIT(sth12a02)

00:09:40 Rep. Malek entered the room

00:14:51 Darrell Rud, School Administrators of Montana and
Montana School Boards Administration

Opponents' Testimony:

00:16:23 David Ewer, Budget Director, Governor Schweitzer

Informational Testimony:

00:26:00 David Senn, Executive Director, Teachers' Retirement
System

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:26:23 Rep. Hendrick

00:27:08 Rep. Dickenson

00:27:32 Rep. Hendrick

00:27:50 Mr. Senn

00:28:49 Rep. Phillips entered the room.

00:30:34 Rep. Ingraham

00:31:08 Mr. Ewer

00:31:26 Rep. Ingraham

00:31:35 Mr. Senn

00:32:00 Rep. Ingraham

00:32:21 Rep. Dickenson

00:34:12 Rep. O'Hara

00:34:16 Rep. Hands entered the room.

00:34:47 Mr. Senn

00:35:06 Rep. Ingraham exited the room.

00:35:42 Rep. O'Hara

00:35:51 Mr. Senn

00:35:55 Rep. Wilmer entered the room.

00:36:18 Rep. Bean
00:37:01 Mr. Rud
00:38:03 Rep. Washburn
00:38:40 Mr. Ewer
00:40:09 Rep. Malek
00:40:42 Mr. Senn

Closing by Sponsor:

00:41:35 Rep. Dickenson
00:43:55 Chairman Himmelberger

HEARING ON HB 87

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:44:08 Rep. Sue Dickenson (D), HD 25, opened the hearing on **HB 87**, Provide increase in employer contribution to optional retirement program.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:50:26 Tom Bilodeau, MEA-MFT
EXHIBIT(sth12a03)
00:54:11 Dr. Douglas Coffin, University of Montana faculty and MEA-MFT
01:01:08 Leonard Bates, Self
01:04:18 Tim Harris, Welding instructor, Helena College of Technology
01:05:41 Kevin McRae, Director of Labor Relations and Human Resources, Montana University System
01:06:09 Rep. Brown entered the room.

Opponents' Testimony:

01:07:40 David Ewer, Budget Director, Governor Schweitzer

Informational Testimony:

01:13:41 David Senn, Executive Director, Teachers' Retirement System

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:14:04 Rep. O'Hara
01:14:46 Mr. Bates
01:14:58 Rep. O'Hara
01:15:15 Mr. Bates
01:15:44 Rep. O'Hara

01:15:51 Rep. Wilmer
01:16:42 Mr. Bilodeau
01:17:42 Rep. Wilmer
01:17:47 Mr. Bilodeau
01:19:41 Rep. Wilmer
01:20:37 Mr. Ewer
01:22:35 Rep. Phillips
01:23:44 Mr. Ewer
01:24:00 Rep. Phillips
01:25:14 Dr. Coffin
01:26:51 Rep. Phillips
01:27:14 Mr. Bilodeau
01:28:37 Rep. Phillips
01:28:47 Mr. Bilodeau
01:29:11 Rep. Brown
01:29:17 Chairman Himmelberger
01:29:39 Rep. Brown
01:30:11 Mr. Senn
01:30:59 Rep. Boniek
01:31:23 Mr. Ewer
01:32:19 Chairman Himmelberger
01:32:54 Dr. Coffin

Closing by Sponsor:

01:34:05 Rep. Dickenson
[EXHIBIT\(sth12a04\)](#)
01:38:23 Chairman Himmelberger
01:38:28 Committee takes a break.
01:52:47 Committee reconvenes.

HEARING ON HB 109

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:54:01 Rep. Chuck Hunter (D), HD 79, opened the hearing on **HB 109**, Generally revise retirement statutes.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:57:12 Melanie Symons, Legal Counsel, Montana Public
Employees' Retirement Board
[EXHIBIT\(sth12a05\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:07:28 Rep. Brown
02:08:13 Ms. Symons
02:09:07 Rep. Brown
02:09:34 Ms. Symons
02:10:11 Rep. Dickenson
02:11:10 Ms. Symons
02:12:07 Rep. Bean
02:12:37 Ms. Symons
02:13:19 Rep. Bean
02:13:53 Ms. Symons
02:14:07 Roxanne Minnehan, Executive Director, Montana Public
Employees' Retirement Administration
02:15:12 Rep. Bean
02:15:20 Rep. MacLaren
02:15:39 Ms. Minnehan

Closing by Sponsor:

02:16:04 Rep. Hunter
02:16:23 Chairman Himmelberger

HEARING ON HB 99

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:17:22 Rep. Ted Washburn (R), HD 69, opened the hearing on **HB 99**, Revise proof of residency requirements for voter registration and voting.

EXHIBIT(sth12a06)

02:20:18 Rep. Dickenson exited the room.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

02:22:58 Linda McCulloch, Secretary of State

EXHIBIT(sth12a07)

02:26:22 Sheena Rice, Campus Organizer, MontPIRG, University of Montana

EXHIBIT(sth12a08)

02:29:11 Joy Bruck, Volunteer Advocate, AARP Montana

EXHIBIT(sth12a09)

02:30:32 Drew Geiger, Montana League of Women Voters

02:32:11 Beth Brenneman, Disability Rights Montana

02:34:55 Lucas Hamilton, Associated Students of the University of Montana

EXHIBIT(sth12a10)

02:37:43 Terry Minow, MEA-MFT
02:38:26 Maureen Weiland, Associated Students of Montana State
University
02:39:20 Jason Miller, Montana Base Locals of the International
Brotherhood of Teamsters and United Brotherhood of
Carpenters
02:39:49 Eric Stern, Governor's Office
02:40:37 Kate Cholewa, Common Cause
02:41:01 Robert Coulter, Montana Conservation Voters

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:44:44 Rep. Wilmer
02:45:14 Mr. Coulter
02:45:52 Rep. Van Dyk
02:46:33 Rep. Washburn
02:48:12 Rep. Van Dyk
02:49:00 Ms. McCulloch
02:49:41 Rep. Phillips
02:50:04 Ms. McCulloch
02:50:09 Rep. Brown
02:50:49 Ms. Weiland
02:51:18 Rep. Brown
02:51:36 Ms. Weiland
02:51:56 Rep. Brown
02:52:04 Ms. Weiland
02:52:12 Rep. Malek
02:52:52 Ms. McCulloch
02:53:17 Rep. MacLaren
02:53:41 Ms. McCulloch
02:54:30 Rep. MacLaren
02:54:43 Ms. McCulloch
02:54:49 Rep. Ingraham entered the room.
02:54:53 Rep. Bean
02:55:43 Ms. Brenneman
02:56:05 Rep. Dickenson entered the room.
02:56:57 Rep. Boniek
02:57:24 Ms. McCulloch
02:57:43 Rep. Boniek
02:57:52 Ms. McCulloch

Closing by Sponsor:

02:58:34 Rep. Washburn
03:01:41 Chairman Himmelberger
03:02:54 Sheri Heffelfinger, Legislative Services Division

EXHIBIT(sth12a11)

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03:03:26 Chairman Himmelberger

03:03:33 Rep. Dickenson

03:04:48 Chairman Himmelberger

ADJOURNMENT

03:04:55 Adjournment

MARSHALL MCEWEN, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([sth12aad.pdf](#))